

St. James United Church Life and Work, March 11, 2018

We offer our condolences to Glenda Winsor, Gloria Le Feuvre and their families on the passing of Glenda's and Gloria's brother, Edward Desmond (Des) Butt, who passed peacefully away on March 5. His funeral service took place from Barrett's Chapel last Friday.

Copies of the Annual Report 2017 are available today for your perusal. The Annual Congregational meeting to discuss this, and approve the 2018 budget, will be held after the 11am Worship Service next Sunday, March 18.

The next UCW meeting will be held tomorrow, Monday, March 12 at 7:30pm. April Miller, a Professional Organizer and Coach in Organizing and Decluttering, will be the guest speaker. April can give tips and help with downsizing and organizing home and office spaces, to "take them from disorganized to serene". Guests are welcome. Please speak with a UCW member and she may be able to bring you along. UCW Members are reminded to bring items for the grab bags for the Spring Tea and Sale.

Monday, March 12 at 11am: NIA (no-impact aerobics); \$5 drop-in fee.

The next Pleasant View Towers Service will be on Tuesday, March 13 at 2pm. Volunteers, please meet at 1:30 in the Chapel.

Spiritual Practices at Cowan Heights: Rebecca Pike's next monthly session for exploring and discovering the spiritual practices right for each person is on Tuesday, March 13 at 10am at Cowan Heights UC.

Wednesday, March 14 at noon: Lenten Communion Service and brown bag lunch.

Thursday March 15: Uppity Women of the Bible: Come and join our discussion group at 7pm in the Fellowship Room.

UCW Spring Tea: *"Mark March 24th on your calendar's list; an Easter Spring Tea that you don't want to miss.*

It's here at St. James, 2pm until four; a warm welcome awaits as you enter the door.

Handmade rabbits and aprons and scarves on a stall; cakes and cookies and muffins you'll find down the hall.

Surprise bags are fun and well worth the price. With sandwiches and cookies, we'll fill your cup twice.

\$7.00 a ticket--- we considered inflation!!

And look for support from the whole congregation."

You are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre next Saturday, March 17, 10am at Burry Heights Camp Site.

Minute for Mission: Our gifts for M&S support congregations in remote locations. Green Bay South Pastoral Charge NL has been receiving financial support from M&S for a number of years. The small charge is spread over 40 km with one church accessible only by water. A M&S funded mission support grant has enabled the pastoral charge to adjust to declining numbers and build up its ministry. It hopes to be self supporting in the near future. The generosity of the United Church has sparked the members' own compassion and kindness. They are generous givers to M&S as they see firsthand the benefit of being a recipient, and are compelled to grow the ministries that we support together as a denomination. During each Sunday service, a Blessing Can is distributed among attendees. People can express their gratitude, name a blessing, and offer a donation. These dollars are set aside as additional donations to specific M&S partners through the *Gifts with Vision* program. Members enjoy this time of thanksgiving and appreciate being able to grow their ministry and mission. The congregation thanks the United Church for supporting them when needed and appreciate the opportunity to share their gifts in gratitude. Our gifts to M&S accompany churches such as Green Bay.

Bridges to Hope invites you to Give 30! Give up a daily perk for 30 days, and donate the money you would have spent on those perks to help feed a neighbour in need. Bridges to Hope has provided extra envelopes in the Sanctuary foyer to keep your *Give 30* funds. You may also follow Bridges to Hope on Facebook where there will be extra ways for you to join in the Give 30 initiative.

Living the Questions, a video based group study that helps explore those pressing questions of faith at Cochrane Centre (Bannerman Street Entrance) on Wednesday, March 14 and 21, 7:30 to 9:30pm. Rev. Miriam (Cochrane Street) and Rev. Peter (George Street) will be the group facilitators.

Lent to Easter Reflection at Virginia Water Retreat House, 47 Parsonage Drive each Sunday from 4-5pm until May 20 offering an hour of contemplation, reflection and dialogue with facilitators Phil Lewis and Gerard Whitty. Please call 754-1582 to register.

This afternoon at 4 at Gower Street UC: Choral NL's inaugural Winter Sing. Tickets, \$20 adults, \$15 students and seniors, available at the door.

This evening at 8 at the Anglican Cathedral, St. John's, the Atlantic String Quartet will present a special evening of music to commemorate the Easter season. The program will feature Haydn's *'The Seven Last of Words of Christ, Op. 51'* Tickets are \$23 for adults / \$20 for students and seniors, by phone at 729-3900, online at www.artsandculturecentre.com or at the door.